

OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL
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MEDICAL DEPARTMENT TRAINS MEDICAL ADMINISTRATIVE CORPS
OFFICERS AS BATTALION SURGEON ASSISTANTS

In order to relieve the critical shortage of doctors, the Medical Department has recently increased its quota for admission to officer candidate schools and has initiated a new program of training graduate administrative officers as battalion surgeon assistants. Between now and April 1945 appointments will be made in the Medical Administrative Corps after seventeen weeks training at Camp Barkeley, Texas and Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

From among these graduates, officers with appropriate backgrounds will be selected to receive six weeks additional training at Camp Barkeley for duty assisting battalion surgeons. The special training consists principally of advanced first aid which will qualify these officers to relieve battalion surgeons of details and thus permit the surgeons time for purely medical and surgical work.

General Morgan Visits Hospitals

Brigadier General Hugh J. Morgan, Chief Consultant in Medicine, Office of The Surgeon General, recently returned from visiting Woodrow Wilson General Hospital, Staunton, Va., McGuire General Hospital, Richmond, Va., and Lawson General Hospital, Atlanta, Ga. He also attended the annual meeting of the Kentucky State Medical Association on September 19 in Lexington, Ky., where he participated in a symposium on new methods of administering penicillin.

CENTRAL DENTAL LABORATORIES INCREASE SERVICE

The Army's central dental laboratories have eliminated their backlog and will process dentures for installation laboratories that have backlogs, according to a recently issued ASF circular (No. 295). Installation laboratories that are not being fully utilized will be eliminated and dental cases from these installations will also be processed by the central dental laboratories.

Fifteen out of every hundred men inducted into the Army required one or more dental prosthetic appliances made. In addition four men out of every hundred had already been fitted, prior to induction, with appliances which are serviced when necessary by Army dental laboratories.

INCIDENCE OF POLIOMYELITIS AMONG U. S. TROOPS

In the two-week period ending September 2, 1944, 20 cases of poliomyelitis were reported by Army installations in the United States. This represents a slightly higher incidence than for the corresponding period last year. The total incidence since the first of the year is somewhat lower than in the corresponding 8-month period of 1943. While most of the cases have occurred in the states which have a high civilian incidence of the disease they have been widely scattered.

Reconditioning News Letter

A new publication "Reconditioning News Letter", is now being distributed monthly by The Office of The Surgeon General to all ASF hospital commanders and service command surgeons. Its aim is to familiarize hospital personnel with new ideas, practices and procedures connected with the reconditioning program. Sources of the items published are reports made by inspecting officers from The Surgeon General's Office, chiefs of the reconditioning branches in service commands, medical officers and others familiar with the program.

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POSTHUMOUS HONORS FOR MISS ESTHER RICHARDS
FIRST WOMAN RED CROSS WORKER KILLED OVERSEAS

The Army has awarded the Purple Heart posthumously to Miss Esther Richards of Burlingame, Calif., the first Red Cross worker to give her life for her country overseas. Miss Richards, who at one time was a member of the Army Nurse Corps, was killed while serving as a Red Cross social worker in a hospital on the Inzio Beachhead. The Italian Government also has honored her, bestowing posthumously the "War Cross of Military Valor". The City of San Francisco has presented a Resolution to her family.

Miss Richards was born in North Platte, Neb., on June 9, 1897. She graduated from the Houghton Training School for Nurses, Houghton, Mich., in 1917, and served with the Army Nurse Corps from 1918 to 1919. For the following twelve years she was medical social worker at the United States Veterans' Bureau in San Francisco. She then entered the University of California from which she received her A. B. degree in 1935. In 1937 she obtained her master's degree from Columbia. From 1937 until she joined the Red Cross Miss Richards served with the Public Welfare Department in San Francisco as a social worker.

On May 31, 1943, Miss Richards joined the Red Cross and was sent to North Africa as a social worker in July 1943.

Hospital Ward Cars to have Buffet Kitchens

The first hospital ward car to be remodeled with a buffet kitchen was inspected on its recent Washington stop-over by members of the Office of The Surgeon General. Buffet kitchens are now being installed in all hospital ward cars and hospital ward dressing cars so hot food service will always be available to patients in transit even though the individual car is attached to a train which does not carry a kitchen.

COLONEL KENNEDY APPOINTED TO MAYO GENERAL HOSPITAL

Colonel Robert H. Kennedy, former Director of Surgery at Beekman Hospital, New York City, and attending surgeon at the New York Post-Graduate Hospital, has recently been appointed chief of surgical service at Mayo General Hospital, according to an announcement by Colonel H. L. Krafft, commanding officer. Colonel Kennedy, a veteran of World War I, succeeds Colonel Emery Neff, former surgical chief, who left for treatment at Percy Jones General Hospital.

The new surgical chief was called to active duty in World War II with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in June 1942. His first assignment was Chief of Surgical Service at Percy Jones General Hospital, which post he held until his arrival at Mayo. He was promoted to Colonel on April 3, 1943.

Colonel Kennedy received his medical degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University in 1912.

Major Ayres Talks on Nurse Recruitment

Major Edith Ayres, ANC, Chief of the Army Nurse Branch of the Technical Information Division, Office of The Surgeon General, was the featured speaker on the September 7, Fort Myer, Va., Band Program over Station WMAL. Her talk was in connection with the recruiting drive which the Army Nurse Corps is conducting to meet the current shortage of Army nurses.

Major Ayres also addressed the September 14 luncheon meeting of the Publicity Club of New York on the urgent need for Army nurses.

ADVANCE IN AURAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Borden General Hospital, Chickasha, Okla., has installed electro-acoustical apparatus enabling it to fit the individual patient with the best combination of manufactured hearing aids. Such equipment is rarely found in civilian institutions and represents a progressive step in the aural rehabilitation program.

Hoff General Hospital, Santa Barbara, Calif., and Deshon General Hospital, Butler, Pa., will be similarly equipped in the near future.

CONVALESCENT TROOPS FOLLOW PROGRESS OF WAR IN FILMS

Convalescent troops are now able to follow the progress of the war by means of "Restricted Staff Film Reports", prepared by Army Pictorial Service of the Signal Corps, Army Service Forces, and distributed to all of the 60 general military hospitals in the continental United States, the War Department announced.

These photographic "reports" are official versions, not available to the public, of combat photography released after review by the Office of The Surgeon General of the Army.

The films are factual and objective, presenting surveys of military operations on all fronts, with explanatory remarks, but with no editorial comment of any kind. Every effort is made to keep them up to the minute. Individual films vary in length from 15 to 30 minutes, depending upon the amount of footage flown back each week from different war theaters and the importance of the pictures themselves.

By an extension of the plan bed-ridden soldiers on U. S. Army hospital ships returning from the different war theaters to the United States also see combat films. (From Army Addenda)

COLONEL BLANCHFIELD VISITS EIGHTH SERVICE COMMAND HOSPITALS

Colonel Florence A. Blanchfield, Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, has returned to the Office of The Surgeon General after an inspection trip to the southwestern part of the United States, where she visited all the hospitals located in the Eighth Service Command.

While at McCloskey General Hospital, Temple, Tex., Colonel Blanchfield talked with Second Lieutenant Helen McCullough, who was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received on the Anzio beachhead.

TYPHUS COMMISSION MEDAL AWARDED TO FOUR

The United States of America Typhus Commission Medal has been awarded by order of the President to Dr. Abdel Wahed El Wakil, Egyptian Minister of Health, and to three British Brigadiers of the Royal Army Medical Corps for the help they have given representatives of the Commission in investigating typhus fever in the Middle East and southern Italy. The members of the Royal Army Medical Corps are Brigadiers John S. K. Boyd, George B. Parkinson and Rudolph W. Galloway.

Dr. Waki was cited for his close cooperation with the Commission at Cairo which resulted in benefit to the military forces; Brigadier Boyd's citation was for his cooperation in arranging for the distribution of typhus vaccine through the Middle East; and Brigadier Parkinson and Brigadier Galloway were cited for their help in preventing the spread of typhus in southern Italy.

REDBOOK EDITION OF "THE ARMY NURSE" AVAILABLE

The history of military nursing is told in an illustrated 32-page special "Redbook" edition of The Army Nurse, just off the press. Starting with the unrecorded past, the story of nursing is traced from earliest traditions to the birth of military nursing, and through the history of American military nursing to the work of the present U. S. Army Nurse Corps. Illustrations range from reproductions of old art to photographs from Civil War times on. The "Redbook" edition, which has been published as an aid in the procurement program of Army nurses, is available to anyone who requests it from the Nursing Branch, Technical Information Division, Office of The Surgeon General, 1818 H Street, N. W. Washington 25, D. C.

General Lull is Guest Speaker

Major General George E. Lull, Deputy Surgeon General of the U. S. Army, will be guest speaker on Service Night at the Ninth Annual Assembly of the United States Chapter of the International College of Surgeons at Philadelphia on the 3rd, 4th and 5th of October.

Recently General Lull gave the commencement address at the graduating exercises of the medical, dental and nursing classes at Northwestern University Medical School, Evanston, Ill. His subject was "Medical Science in War".

ARMY STEPS-UP DAILY SHIPMENTS OF WHOLE BLOOD

Since the designation of Boston as a whole-blood donor center in addition to New York and Washington, the shipments of type "O" blood which the Army is flying across the Atlantic have been stepped up to 750 pints a day and even larger shipments are anticipated. Whole blood has always been used (in addition to plasma) for severe hemorrhage and surgical cases and up to now the source of donors in the various theaters was adequate. With increased activities in France, however, it was estimated that requirements would exceed the amount of blood available in this theater so arrangements were made for the Red Cross to collect the blood here and the Army to fly it across.

This whole blood is available for transfusion in the European theater within 24 hours after leaving the U. S.

Colonel Turner on Inspection Trip

Lieutenant Colonel Roy H. Turner, M. C., Chief of the Communicable Disease Treatment Branch of the Medical Consultants Division, Office of The Surgeon General, has been on a tour of temporary duty in the field (Sept. 12 - Sept. 20). Colonel Turner visited the Vascular Center at DeWitt General Hospital, Auburn, Calif., and the Rheumatic Fever Centers at Torney General Hospital, Palm Springs, Calif., Bruns General Hospital, Santa Fe, N. M., and Foster General Hospital, Jackson, Miss. During the course of this trip, Colonel Turner represented the Surgeon General at the Regional Meeting of the American College of Physicians at Vancouver, British Columbia. He delivered two addresses; one on The Control of Streptococcus Infections with Sulfonamides and the other on The Hepatitis Problem in the Army.

MAJOR ROLLER, MC, AWARDED OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO SILVER STAR

Major Jay P. Roller, MC, of Luckey, O., has received the award of the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star for "outstanding devotion to duty" in administering medical aid to eight wounded soldiers under heavy fire while in Sicily. Despite the loss of several of his own medical personnel, Major Roller continued to administer aid throughout the night. His citation states that on this occasion and countless others, he demonstrated such gallantry and disregard for self in the performance of hazardous missions that his courage and devotion to duty are a constant inspiration to the officers and men of his regiment.

NEW PENICILLIN STUDY INSTITUTED AT FORT BRAGG

Doctor Charles Rammelkamp, member of the Commission on Acute Respiratory Diseases, Epidemiological Board, Preventive Medicine Service, Office of The Surgeon General, and Captain William Leifer, MC, Regional Hospital, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, recently spent several days in the Office of The Surgeon General conferring on the new method of administering penicillin developed by Captain Romansky, MC, at the Army Medical Center. The new technique prolongs the action of penicillin by suspending it in a mixture of 4% beeswax and peanut oil. Dr. Rammelkamp will act in a consulting capacity with Captain Leifer who is instituting a study of the method at Fort Bragg Regional Hospital. It is believed the new method will have important effects upon the use of this agent.

Captain Grimes Broadcasts Experiences

While in Washington, Captain Marian Grimes, ANC, spoke over radio station WTOP on her experiences in Australia and New Guinea. Her broadcast was in connection with the Army Nurse Corps recruiting program.

Captain Grimes, who has been on temporary duty in the Office of the Surgeon General, has now returned to her permanent station at Fort Sheridan, Ill.

BRUNS GENERAL HOSPITAL BECOMES TUBERCULOSIS CENTER

The Bruns General Hospital located in Santa Fe, N. M., under the command of Brigadier General Larry B. McAfee, M.C., has been designated as an Army center for the treatment of tuberculosis. The hospital is specially staffed with tuberculosis experts, and utilizes the most modern equipment and methods of treatment.

Bruns General Hospital was named in honor of Colonel Earl Harvey Bruns, M. C., who was one of the most distinguished phthisiologists in the history of the Army. As Chief of Medical Service at Fitzsimons General Hospital, Denver, Colo., which is also an Army tuberculosis center, he introduced much of the therapeutic practice now in effect there and trained many officers in the principles of tuberculosis control.

LAUNDRY PROCESS UTILIZING SEA- WATER DEVELOPED

A process which makes use of sea water for laundry purposes has been developed, and will soon be in use on all Army hospital ships. In initial experiments the United States Army hospital ship, Wisteria, was selected for a practical test at sea, and in a thirty-day period, 36,101 pieces were successfully laundered with sea water. This meant a saving of about two-thirds the linen inventory carried by hospital ships, or room for four more bed patients or ten more walking cases on each ship. The saving effected in fresh water was 4480 gallons a day, and the reduction in amount of linen used represented a considerable financial saving. The process can be installed in any ship's laundry by cutting in the salt water pipe. Its use on troopships and island bases is also contemplated.

Major Golden Given New Assignment

Major Alfred Golden, M.C., of Madison, Wis., who has been on duty for the past four years at the Army Medical Museum, has been transferred to the Division of Health and Sanitation, Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Major Golden will be assigned to duty in Latin America to study the pathology of certain tropical diseases.

GENERAL HOSPITALS DESIGNATED AS SPECIAL TREATMENT CENTERS

AMPUTATIONS:

Bushnell at Brigham City, Utah; England at Atlantic City, N. J.; Percy Jones at Battle Creek, Mich; Lawson at Atlanta, Ga; McCloskey at Temple, Tex; Walter Reed at Washington, D.C.

NEUROSURGERY:

Ashford at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va; Baker at Martinsburg, W. Va; Brooke at Fort Sam Houston, Tex; Bushnell at Brigham City, Utah; Cushing at Framingham, Mass; DeWitt at Auburn, Calif; England at Atlantic City, N. J; Hammond at Modesto, Calif; Percy Jones at Battle Creek, Mich; Kennedy at Memphis, Tenn; Lawson at Atlanta, Ga; Mayo at Galesburg, Ill; McCloskey at Temple, Tex; McCaw at Walla Walla, Wash; Nichols at Louisville, Ky; Northington at Tuscaloosa, Ala; O'Reilly at Springfield, Mo; Wakeman at Camp Atterbury, Ind; Walter Reed at Washington, D.C.

THORACIC SURGERY:

Baxter at Spokane, Wash; Brooke at Fort Sam Houston, Tex; Fitzsimons at Denver, Colo; Kennedy at Memphis, Tenn; Walter Reed at Washington, D.C.

PLASTIC SURGERY AND

OPHTHALMOLOGIC

SURGERY:

Baker at Martinsburg, W. Va; Beaumont at El Paso, Tex; Cushing at Framingham, Mass; Dibble at Menlo Park, Calif; Northington at Tuscaloosa, Ala; O'Reilly at Springfield, Mo; Valley Forge at Phoenixville, Pa; Wakeman at Camp Atterbury, Ind.

OPHTHALMOLOGIC

SURGERY AND

BLIND:

Dibble at Menlo Park, Calif; Valley Forge at Phoenixville, Pa.

DEAF:

Borden at Chickasha, Okla; Deshon at Butler, Pa; Hoff at Santa Barbara, Calif.

DEEP X-RAY

THERAPY:

Army & Navy at Hot Springs, Ark; Beaumont at El Paso, Tex; Brooke at Fort Sam Houston, Tex; Bushnell at Brigham City, Utah; Fitzsimons at Denver, Colo; Percy Jones at Battle Creek, Mich; Lawson at Atlanta, Ga; Letterman at San Francisco, Calif; Walter Reed, Washington D.C.

RADIUM THERAPY:

Army and Navy at Hot Springs, Ark; Letterman at San Francisco, Calif; Walter Reed, Washington, D. C.

VASCULAR:

Ashford at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va; DeWitt at Auburn, Calif; Mayo at Galesburg, Ill.

NEUROLOGY:

Ashford at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.; Baker at Martinsburg, W. Va; Brooke at Fort Sam Houston, Tex; Bushnell at Brigham City, Utah; Cushing at Framingham, Mass; DeWitt at Auburn, Calif; England at Atlantic City, N. J; Hammond at Modesto, Calif; Percy Jones at Battle Creek, Mich; Kennedy at Memphis, Tenn; Lawson at Atlanta, Ga; Mayo at Galesburg, Ill; McCloskey at Temple, Tex; McCaw at Walla Walla, Wash; Nichols at Louisville, Ky; Northington at Tuscaloosa, Ala; O'Reilly at Springfield, Mo; Wakeman at Camp Atterbury, Ind; Walter Reed at Washington, D. C.

ARTHRITIS:

Army and Navy at Hot Springs, Ark; Ashburn at McKinney, Tex.

GENERAL HOSPITALS DESIGNATED AS SPECIAL TREATMENT CENTERS (Cont'd)

GNS SYPHILIS:

Birmingham at Van Nuys, Calif; Finney at Thomasville, Ga; Harmon at Longview, Tex; Lovell at Ft. Devens, Mass; Schick at Clinton, Iowa; Thayer at Nashville, Tenn; Woodrow Wilson at Staunton, Va.

TUBERCULOSIS:

Bruns at Santa Fe, N. M.; Fitzsimons at Denver, Colo.

RHEUMATIC FEVER:

Birmingham at Van Nuys, Calif; Foster, at Jackson, Miss; Torney at Palm Springs, Calif.

TROPICAL DISEASE:

Moore at Swannanoa, N. C.

MEDICINE:

Army and Navy at Hot Springs, Ark; Ashburn at McKinney, Tex; Ashford at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va; Battey at Rome, Ga; Baxter at Spokane, Wash; Birmingham at Van Nuys, Calif; Bruns at Santa Fe, N. M.; DeWitt at Auburn, Calif; Finney at Thomasville, Ga; Fitzsimons at Denver, Colo; Fletcher at Cambridge, Ohio; Foster at Jackson, Miss; Harmon at Longview, Tex; Lovell at Ft. Devens, Mass; Mayo at Galesburg, Ill; Moore at Swannanoa, N. C.; Oliver at Augusta, Ga; Rhoads at Utica, N.Y.; Schick at Clinton, Iowa; Thayer at Nashville, Tenn; Tilton at Ft. Dix, N.J; Torney at Palm Springs, Calif; Vaughan at Hines, Ill; Walter Reed at Washington, D. C.; Winter at Topeka, Kansas; Woodrow Wilson at Staunton, Va.

PSYCHIATRY:

Baker at Martinsburg, W. Va; Battey at Rome, Ga; Beaumont at El Paso, Tex; Birmingham at Van Nuys, Calif; Brooke at Fort San Houston, Tex; Bushnell at Brigham City, Utah; Crile at Cleveland, Ohio; Cushing at Framingham, Mass; Darnall at Danville, Ky; DeWitt at Auburn, Calif; Dibble at Menlo Park, Calif; Finney at Thomasville, Ga; Fitzsimons at Denver, Colo; Harmon at Longview, Tex; Kennedy at Memphis, Tenn; La Garde at New Orleans, La; Mayo at Galesburg, Ill; McCloskey at Temple, Tex; McCaw at Walla Walla, Wash; Moore at Swannanoa, N.C.; Northington at Tuscaloosa, Ala; Schick at Clinton, Iowa; Valley Forge at Phoenixville, Pa; Vaughan at Hines, Ill; Walter Reed at Washington, D. C.; Winter at Topeka, Kansas.

HISTOPATHOLOGIC:

Army and Navy at Hot Springs, Ark; Barnes at Vancouver, Wash; Beaumont at El Paso, Tex; Billings at Indianapolis, Ind; Brooke at Fort San Houston, Tex; Bushnell at Brigham City, Utah; Fitzsimons at Denver, Colo; Hoff at Santa Barbara, Calif; Lawson at Atlanta, Ga; Letterman at San Francisco, Calif; Lovell at Ft. Devens, Mass; O'Reilly at Springfield, Mo; Stark at Charleston, S. C.; Thayer at Nashville, Tenn; Valley Forge at Phoenixville, Pa.

PRISONER OF WAR:

Billings at Indianapolis, Ind; Bruns at Santa Fe, N. M; Bushnell at Brigham City, Utah; Fitzsimons at Denver, Colo; Glennan at Okmulgee, Okla; Halloran at Staten Island, N.Y; Lawson at Atlanta, Ga; Lovell at Ft. Devens, Mass; Mason at Brentwood, N.Y; Mayo at Galesburg, Ill; McCloskey at Temple, Tex; Oliver at Augusta, Ga; Valley Forge at Phoenixville, Pa; Winter at Topeka, Kansas.

